

It would also set the precedent that the malignant whims of a determined dictator can reduce the United Nations to a hollow debating society that cannot uphold the promise of world peace.

A war against Iraq by a renewed international coalition or by the United States alone would be a grave and sobering step with many risks and unknowns. We cannot and should not take such a step without full consideration by the United Nations and the Congress, as the President has promised. But the dangers of continued inaction, of endless dithering, are too frightening to ignore. We must act to support the President.

#### SARASOTA CONCERT BAND

#### HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 24, 2002*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the victims of the September 11, 2001 attack on the United States of America were honored by a special performance of Charles Gabriele's "Ave Maria" presented by the Sarasota Concert Band, conducted by its director Maestro William Barbenera, at the band's September 2nd concert. Lorraine Murphy-Renfroe and Douglas Renfroe were the solo vocalists.

Members of the band who performed in the tribute were: Patricia Dominowski, Adrienne Clover, Kelly Hatin, Valerie McManus, Lindsey White, Tom Hughes, Kelly Jacobs, Jave Martin, Pan Winkle, Phil Hohman, Estella Lilly, Maria Herrera, Calvin Wright, Megan Jefferds, Harry Phillips, Lynn Miller, R.C. Summers, George McLain, Marc Levensen, Kristen Constantino, Liz Jefferds, Joe Martinez, Dick Thierry, Gerry Snyder, John Hietala, Dave Jacobs, Jacob Bradley, Robert Moore, Merrill Wilson, Eric Vanzytveld, Andrea Hatin, Robert Thurston, Marvin Luckett, Charles Wilson, Bill Namack, John Haswell, Lara Fetzek, Chuck Evans, Laurita Noller, Pam Winkle, Robert Andrews, Jack Brokensha, Mike Dubi, Carolyn Gallmeyer, Fred Gallmeyer, Jeff Hanscom, Joe Hruby, Ann Jefferds, Marc Levensen, Faye Luckett, William Namack, Eddie Pawl, Bryson Sanders, Dianne Saunders, Michael Saunders, Paul Worrell, Lisa Barbanera, Kim Clark, Diane Jolly and Melissa Martinez.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this most commendable musical tribute to the victims.

#### IN HONOR OF JACQUELINE ELLAM AUTRY, RECIPIENT OF THE HONORARY CONGRESSIONAL HORIZON AWARD

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 24, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jacqueline Autry, who will receive the Honorary Congressional Horizon Award on September 27, 2002 at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage. The Honorary Congressional Horizon Award is presented annually to individuals who have personally contributed to expanding the opportunities for all Americans,

and who have set an exceptional example for young people through their successes in life.

Success has always followed Jackie Autry. As a young woman in 1959, she started her career at Security First National Bank, working first as a switchboard operator, then as an Assistant Manager of Operations, and then Manager. At the young age of thirty-two, she was appointed to the position of Vice President, where she remained until July 17, 1981, when she married the American cowboy legend, Gene Autry.

Mrs. Autry has clearly demonstrated her selfless devotion to the community of Los Angeles. Her invaluable contributions to the community include serving as President of the Palm Springs chapter of the American Red Cross and serving as Treasurer and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Eisenhower Medical Center and Hospital. She has also served as President of Community Blood Bank of the Desert and currently serves as Director and President of the Autry Foundation.

Mrs. Autry also has the venerable distinction of being the only woman ever to serve on the Major League Baseball Executive Council and Board of Directors. She continues to serve the sporting community while acting as Honorary President of the American League of Major League Baseball.

Over the years, Mrs. Autry's remarkable breadth of involvement with the community has been a benefit and an inspiration to many. I am proud to honor the contributions of Mrs. Autry. It is through her accomplishments that we are inspired to believe in the power of each American to make a difference in our nation. In acknowledgement of her service, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in recognizing the achievements and contributions of Jacqueline Autry.

#### IDAHO PUBLIC LANDS

#### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 24, 2002*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, the people of Idaho are fortunate to have the incredible resources of the public lands for work and play. Our public lands provide forest, mineral, and grazing resources, as well as access to a wide variety of outdoor recreation pursuits. The beauty of Idaho's mountains and rivers draw thousands of tourists to our state, injecting millions of dollars into our state's economy and supporting thousands of small businesses. So it is fitting to draw attention to an expedition that recently passed through Idaho.

American Frontiers: A Public Lands Journey is drawing attention to America's public lands legacy through a two month, 3,000 mile journey entirely on public lands and waters. Two teams of adventurers, including teachers, a firefighter, a nurse, a reporter, and several outdoor enthusiasts began this trek on August 1, one team starting from the Canadian border, the other from the Mexican border. The two teams will join together on September 28, 2002 in Salt Lake City on National Public Lands Day. The northern group journeyed into Idaho while they were on the Continental Divide Trail, and hit the halfway point in their journey in the Targhee National Forest.

We all treasure the special moments spent in awe of the natural wonders around us, and

stand to gain from a better understanding of America's public lands legacy. My thanks go to the Public Lands Interpretive Association and the many sponsors and partners organizing this special journey. I encourage you to read more about this incredible journey on America's public lands by visiting the interactive website [www.americanfrontiers.net](http://www.americanfrontiers.net).

#### REPRESSION OF MINORITIES CONTINUES IN INDIA—SIKHS, MUSLIMS, CHRISTIANS CONTINUE TO BE TARGETED

#### HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 24, 2002*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am distressed about two recent articles that show the continuing repression of minorities in India. One article appeared in The Hindu, an Indian newspaper. It said that over 5,000 Muslims were killed in the violence this spring in Gujarat. Then the Times of India reported that a group of Indian police officers fired on a group of peaceful Sikh protestors. These articles show that minorities such as Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and others continue to suffer the worst kind of repression in "democratic" India.

In Gujarat, the police were quoted as saying that they were ordered to stand aside and let the Muslims be killed. This was strangely reminiscent of the 1984 massacre of Sikhs in Delhi. It is part of India's pattern of repression of its minorities. Now, it comes out that peaceful Sikh protestors who were simply holding a peaceful protest against what they see as desecration of their gurus and their scriptures were fired upon by Indian police. What kind of a democracy fires on peaceful protestors engaged in peaceful action?

Christians continue to be oppressed as well. Churches have been burned, prayer halls have been attacked, nuns have been raped, and priests have been murdered. Militant Hindu nationalists burned a missionary and his two young sons to death while they slept in their jeep. A few years ago, police fired on a Christian religious festival that was peacefully promoting the theme "Jesus Is the Answer."

Mr. Speaker, it is time to stop U.S. aid to India. It is time to declare our support for self-determination for the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, and all the peoples demanding their freedom from India. We cannot just stand by and allow India's repression to go on with our support. Self-determination is everyone's birthright. Freedom is everyone's birthright. It is time for America to follow our principles and support it.

The Council of Khalistan issued an excellent press release on the police firing at the peaceful demonstrators. I would like to insert that into the RECORD at this time. In addition, I would like to place the article from The Hindu into the RECORD to show my colleagues the ongoing repression of minorities in supposedly democratic India.

#### INDIAN POLICE FIRE AT PEACEFUL SIKH PROTESTORS

INDIA AGAIN SHOWS IT IS NOT A DEMOCRACY

WASHINGTON, DC, August 5, 2002.—The Times of India reported on August 1 that police in Malout fired on a crowd of peaceful